IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : New Confirmation No.:

Applicant : Katsuo IMAZUKA

Filed: October 7, 2003

TC/AU : Unassigned Examiner : Unassigned

Docket No. : 009270/0306173

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the top of the first page, under the title and just under BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, please insert:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a Divisional of U.S. Application No. 10,151,983, filed May 22, 2002, which is a Divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/643,713, filed August 23, 2000, which claims priority from the prior Japanese Patent Application No. 11-237272, filed August 24, 1999, the entire contents all of which are incorporated herein by reference.